

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 19750 251204Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----106488 251205Z /53
O 251156Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3079
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T CAIRO 19750

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR OVIP EG IS US
SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENTS BY FONMIN KAMEL ON CAMP
DAVID MEETING

REF: CAIRO 19711

1. I HAD ANOTHER BRIEF CHAT WITH FONMIN KAMEL LAST EVENING. WE WENT OVER MUCH OF THE SAME GROUND THAT WE HAD DISCUSSED EARLIER IN THE DAY (REFTEL), BUT SEVERAL ADDITIONAL POINTS CAME UP.
2. GIVEN BEGIN'S ANNOUNCED HARD LINE POSITIONS, KAMEL IS APPREHENSIVE THAT WE MAY CHOOSE THE LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE AND TRY TO PRESS SADAT FOR FURTHER CONCESSIONS, ESPECIALLY ON THE WEST BANK. HE IS CONVINCED THAT IF SADAT GOES BEYOND A REASONABLE DEFINITION OF "MINOR" BORDER RECTIFICATION, THE PRESIDENT WILL FIND HIMSELF DISCREDITED AT HOME AND IN THE ARAB WORLD. HE REITERATED HIS HOPE THAT WE WILL STAND BY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO MINOR RECTIFICATIONS IN THE WEST BANK.

3. HE REPEATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE ONLY WAY THE IMPASSE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 19750 251204Z

CAN BE BROKEN IS THROUGH US PROPOSALS OR SUGGESTIONS. WITHOUT THIS, HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL FAIL. HE VOICED ONE OTHER WORRY. THE WORST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN TO EGYPT, HE CONTENTED, IS THAT A US PROPOSAL IS MADE WHICH IS REJECTED BY THE ISRAELIS AND IS ALSO NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THE EGYPTIANS. THIS, HE ARGUED, WOULD REALLY PUT SADAT INTO A BIND.

4. PROFESSING TO BE SPEAKING PERSONALLY, KAMEL THEN ENGAGED IN SOME SPECULATION AS TO WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF THE CAMP DAVID MEETINGS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL. HE NOTED THAT THIS NEED NOT BE THE END OF THE PEACE ROAD. FAILURE AT CAMP DAVID, HE OPINED, WOULD OPEN THE WAY FOR ARAB RECONCILIATION. AN EARLY ARAB SUMMIT WOULD PROBABLY ENSUE. SADAT MIGHT HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HIS PEACE INITIATIVE HAS FAILED, BUT KAMEL INSISTED WE NEED NOT BE CONCERNED THAT A REUNITED ARAB WORLD WILL TURN ITS BACK ON THE PEACE PROCESS. GENEVA OR WALDHEIM'S PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IDEAS WOULD STILL BE FEASIBLE AND HE THOUGHT EVEN THE SYRIANS WOULD BE WILLING TO GO ALONG. THERE WAS ALSO THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING THE MATTER TO THE UN IN ORDER TO MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AGAINST ISRAELI HARD LINE POSITIONS. HE ADMITTED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ISRAEL MIGHT BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO A UNITED ARAB EFFORT, BUT NOTED THAT BEGIN IS NOT LIKELY TO BE AROUND FOREVER. SOME GAINS HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH THE SADAT INITIATIVE AND THESE MIGHT FORM THE BASIS FOR A SUBSEQUENT PEACE EFFORT INVOLVING ALL OF THE CONFRONTATION STATES. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD NOT THOUGHT THE MATTER THROUGH VERY CAREFULLY AS YET, BUT OBSERVED THAT GOE WILL HAVE TO DO SOME CONTINGENCY PLANNING AS TO WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CAMP DAVID TALKS PROVE UNSUCCESSFUL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 CAIRO 19750 251204Z

5. AFTER OUR EARLIER MEETING OF YESTERDAY, KAMEL TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE PAPERS BEING PREPARED FOR THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT WILL DEFINE EGYPTIAN STANDS REGARDING WITHDRAWAL AND SECURITY, THE NATURE OF PEACE AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION. THESE POSITIONS WILL BE CONVEYED TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIRST BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN SADAT AND PRESIDENT CARTER. KAMEL ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE HAD EMPHASIZED TO USG THE IMPORTANCE OF IT ADHERING TO THE STATEMENTS AND OFFICIAL STANDS DECLARED BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO THE PRINCIPLES AND BASES OF PEACE. IT WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH SIMPLY TO SEEK TO PRESENT MEDIATION PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO RESOLVE CONFLICTING POSITIONS. NOTE: KAMEL DID NOT SAY THAT TO ME YESTERDAY, BUT HE HAS SEVERAL TIMES MADE THE POINT IN THE PAST. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO19750
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850067-2139
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780820/aaaaaqib.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7739f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: 78 CAIRO 19711
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1611789
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER COMMENTS BY FONMIN KAMEL ON CAMP DAVID MEETING
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, EG, IS, US, (KAMEL, MOHAMMED IBRAHIM)
To: STATE TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7739f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014